

STATE OF VERMONT  
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

Docket No. 7697

Investigation into Carl and Sherie Stariknok's request for )  
electric service from Central Vermont Public Service )  
Corporation in Reading, Vermont )  
)

Order entered: 1/7/2011

**ORDER OPENING INVESTIGATION**  
**AND NOTICE OF PREHEARING CONFERENCE**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

On September 9, 2010, Carl and Sherie Stariknok ("the Stariknoks") filed a letter (the "Stariknok Letter") seeking assistance from the Public Service Board ("Board") in obtaining electric service from Central Vermont Public Service Corporation ("CVPS"). According to the Stariknok Letter, the Stariknoks' request for service from CVPS dates back to 2006 and is now "at a standstill."

The Stariknok Letter was accompanied by numerous documents — including a printout of a computer case file from the Consumer and Public Information Division of the Vermont Department of Public Service — reflecting the unsuccessful efforts that have been made over the last several years to resolve an impasse between the Stariknoks and their neighbor, Andrew Hall, regarding the design of a line-extension route that would pass through Mr. Hall's property to extend electric service from CVPS's existing distribution system to the Stariknok's property. It appears from the documents accompanying the Stariknok Letter that the affected parties (the Stariknoks, Mr. Hall and CVPS) have considered the potential need to resort to condemnation proceedings in order to resolve this impasse. However, to date, CVPS has not filed a petition seeking a condemnation order.

Pursuant to 30 V.S.A. Section 219, a company such as CVPS, that is subject to regulatory supervision under Title 30, "shall be required to furnish reasonably adequate service, accommodation and facilities to the public." Furthermore, Section 208 provides, in relevant part, that "a complaint to the public service board may be made against a company . . . concerning any claimed unlawful act or neglect adversely affecting the complainant . . . ." Therefore, we will treat the Stariknok Letter as a complaint filed pursuant to Section 208 alleging that CVPS has failed to comply with its duty pursuant to Section 219 to furnish the Stariknoks with electric service.

The Board hereby opens an investigation to examine why CVPS has been unable to provide the Stariknoks with the electric service they first requested in 2006. June E. Tierney, Esq., is appointed to serve as Hearing Officer. A prehearing conference will be held to identify the legal issues to be examined in this proceeding and to establish a schedule for this investigation.

## **II. ORDER**

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED by the Public Service Board of the State of Vermont that:

1. Pursuant to 30 V.S.A. Sections 208, 209(a)(3) and 219, an investigation is opened to examine why Central Vermont Public Service Corporation has been unable to provide Carl and Sherie Stariknok with electric service to their property in Reading, Vermont.
2. Pursuant to 30 V.S.A. Section 8, June E. Tierney, Staff Attorney, is appointed to serve as the Hearing Officer in this proceeding.
3. Pursuant to 30 V.S.A. Section 10, a Prehearing Conference will be held in this matter on Tuesday, February 1, 2011, commencing at 10:30 A.M., at the Reading Public Library Meeting Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, located at 717 Vermont Route 106 in Reading, Vermont. A Site Visit will take place immediately preceding the Prehearing Conference at 10:00 A.M., at the Stariknok's property located at 875 Weld Cemetery Road in Reading, Vermont.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 7<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2011.

<u>s/ James Volz</u>	)	
	)	PUBLIC SERVICE
	)	
<u>s/ David C. Coen</u>	)	BOARD
	)	
	)	OF VERMONT
<u>s/ John D. Burke</u>	)	

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

FILED: January 7, 2011

ATTEST: s/ Susan M. Hudson  
Clerk of the Board

*NOTICE TO READERS: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Board (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: psb.clerk@state.vt.us)*